

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 436

By Shepard

A RESOLUTION congratulating the members of Dickson First Presbyterian Church upon its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, the churches of our nation have been an integral part of our history as a people and have had an unparalleled impact in forming and maintaining a stable and just society; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should recognize those venerable religious institutions and their congregations who, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enrich the lives of people in their communities; one such dynamic and historic community of faith is Dickson First Presbyterian Church, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Dickson First Presbyterian Church was established in 1907, unifying two Presbyterian groups in Dickson under one common banner of faith; and

WHEREAS, W.L. Salmon was the first pastor of this esteemed congregation; serving as elders were A.L. Boone and W. T. Richardson with Mrs. M.J. von Schmittou serving as the church treasurer; and

WHEREAS, many of the community's most revered families were original members of Dickson First Presbyterian Church, including the Boone, English, Green, Hackett, Lock, Ray, Byrn, and Cowan families; descendants of the Lock and Ray families remain members to this day; and

WHEREAS, through hard work and great faith, the members of First Presbyterian prevailed through an unfortunate dwindling of membership in the early 1960s; though advised to close, the faithful fourteen members fought to save the church, and today its membership is 170; and

WHEREAS, the Dickson First Presbyterian Church still meets on a regular basis, with William J. Barger serving as pastor; and

WHEREAS, a powerful tool in the service of the Kingdom of God, Dickson First Presbyterian Church is truly one of the great religious institutions and is a catalyst for positive spiritual change in our State and Nation, and the members of this exceptional congregation should be appropriately honored for their exemplary service to their fellow Christians and to the good people of Dickson and Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the members of Dickson First Presbyterian Church on the celebration of its 100th anniversary and offer our best wishes for its every continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.